Massachusetts Gambling Screen (MAGS)

DIRECTIONS: *Please circle the response that best represents your answer.*

1.	Have you ever gambled (for example, bet money on the lottery, bingo, sporting events, casino games, cards, racing or other games of chance)?		YES	NO
2.	Have you ever experienced social, psychological or financial pressure to start gambling or increase how much you gamble?		YES	NO
3.	How much do you usually gamble compared with most other people?	Less	About the Same	More
4.	Do you feel that the amount or frequency of your gambling is "normal"?		YES	NO
5.	Do friends or relatives think of you as a "normal" gambler?		YES	NO
6.	Do you ever feel pressure to gamble when you do not gamble?		YES	NO
	If you never have gambled, please skip to question #29 now.			
7.	Do you ever feel guilty about your gambling?		YES	NO
8.	Does any member of your family ever worry or complain about your gambling?		YES	NO
9.	Have you ever thought that you should reduce or stop gambling?		YES	NO
10.	Are you always able to stop gambling when you want?		YES	NO
11.	Has your gambling ever created problems between you and any member of your family or friends?		YES	NO
12.	Have you ever gotten into trouble at work or school because of your gambling?		YES	NO
13.	Have you ever neglected your obligations (e.g., family, work or school) for two or more days in a row because you were gambling?		YES	NO
14.	Have you ever gone to anyone for help about your gambling?		YES	NO
15.	Have you ever been arrested for a gambling related activity?		YES	NO
16.	Have you been preoccupied with thinking of ways to get money for gambling or reliving past gambling experience (for example, handicapping) during the past 12 months?		YES	NO

17.	Have you been preoccupied with thinking of ways to get money for gambling or reliving past gambling experience (for example, handicapping) during the past 12 months?	YES	NO
18.	During the past 12 months, have you gambled in increasingly larger amounts of money to experience the desired level of excitement?	YES	NO
18.	Did you find during the past 12 months that the same amount of gambling had less effect on you than before?	YES	NO
19.	Has stopping gambling or cutting down how much you gamble made you feel restless or irritable during the past 12 months?	YES	NO
20.	Have you gambled during the past 12 months to make the uncomfortable feelings that come from stopping gambling (for example, restlessness, or irritability) go away or to keep from having them?	YES	NO
21.	Have you gambled as a way of escaping from problems or relieving feelings of helplessness, guilt, anxiety, or depression during the past 12 months?	YES	NO
22.	After losing money gambling, have you returned to gambling on another day to win back your lost money?	YES	NO
23.	Have you lied to family members or others to conceal the extent of involvement in gambling?	YES	NO
24.	Have you committed any illegal acts (for example, such as forgery, fraud, theft, embezzlement, etc.) during the past 12 months to finance your gambling?	YES	NO
25.	During the past 12 months, have you jeopardized or lost a significant relationship, job, or educational or career opportunity because of your gambling?	YES	NO
26.	Have you relied on others (for example, family, friends, or work) to provide you with money to resolve a desperate financial situation caused by your gambling?	YES	NO
27.	During the past 12 months, have you made efforts unsuccessfully to limit, reduce, or stop gambling?	YES	NO
28.	How old were you when you placed your first bet?	_____	
29.	What is your sex?	_____	
30.	What is your age as of your last birthday?	_____	

		Not at all honest	Somewhat dishonest	Somewhat honest	Very honest
31.	How honest were your responses to each of the questions on this survey?				

Scoring Rules for Massachusetts Gambling Screen (MAGS)

- On the Scoring Guide (next page), indicate the respondent's survey answers by circling the appropriate response option for each of the specified questions. The question numbers on the Scoring Guide refer to the question numbers on the MAGS survey. *Not all of the MAGS survey items are used on the Scoring Guide.*

- For each question, write the selected value on the corresponding line.

- Add the seven (7) scores for the MAGS items.Enter the sum on the Subtotal line. Next, *subtract* the value .62. Enter the resulting value on the TOTAL 1 line. To classify the respondent according to MAGS criteria, refer to the MAGS Classification Key and select the category that corresponds to the value on the TOTAL 1 line.

- Add the twelve (12) scores for the DSM-IV items. Enter the sum on the TOTAL 2 line. To classify the respondent according to the DSM-IV criteria, refer to the DSM-IV Classification Key and select the category that corresponds to the value on the TOTAL 2 line.

Reference

Shaffer, H.J., LaBrie, R., Scanlan, K.M. & Cummings, T.N. (1994). Pathological Gambling Among Adolescents: Massachusetts Gambling Screen (MAGS). Journal of Gambling Studies, 10(4), 339-362.

Scoring Guide

To classify according to the MAGS:

Question 6:	no = 0	yes = .63	_____
Question 8:	no = 0	yes = .91	_____
Question 10:	yes = 0	no = .56	_____
Question 11:	no = 0	yes = .93	_____
Question 12:	no = 0	yes = 1.51	_____
Question 13:	no = 0	yes = 1.53	_____
Question 15:	no = 0	yes = 1.63	_____

		Subtotal	_____
		Subtract	____0.62____
		Total 1	_____

To classify according to DSM-IV:

Question 16:	no = 0	yes = 1	_____
Question 17:	no = 0	yes = .5	_____
Question 18:	no = 0	yes = .5	_____
Question 19:	no = 0	yes = .5	_____
Question 20:	no = 0	yes = .5	_____
Question 21:	no = 0	yes = 1	_____
Question 22:	no = 0	yes = 1	_____
Question 23:	no = 0	yes = 1	_____
Question 24:	no = 0	yes = 1	_____
Question 25:	no = 0	yes = 1	_____
Question 26:	no = 0	yes = 1	_____
Question 27:	no = 0	yes = 1	_____

		Total 2	_____

MAGS Classification Key

If the value on the **Total 1** line is a negative number, the respondent is classified as: *Nonpathological*.

If the value on the **Total 1** line is between 0 and 2 (including 0 and 2), the respondent is classified as *In Transition*.

If the value on the **Total 1** line is *greater than 2*, the respondent is classified as *Pathological*.

DSM-IV Classification Key

If the value on the **Total 2** line is less than 5, the respondent is classified as: *Nonpathological*.

If the value on the **Total 2** line is 5 or greater, the respondent is classified as *Pathological*.